

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of the claims replaces all earlier listings and all earlier versions.

1. - 23. (Canceled).

24. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus comprising:

an image capture unit;

a memory adapted to store ~~[[an]]~~ a first image captured by ~~[[an]]~~ said image capture unit;

a first superimposing unit adapted to superimpose a ~~first-character~~ second image on the first image read from said memory;

a second superimposing unit adapted to superimpose a ~~second-character~~ third image on the first image read from said memory;

a display unit adapted to display the first image on which the ~~first-character~~ second image is superimposed; and

an outputting unit adapted to output the first image on which the ~~second-character~~ third image is superimposed ~~to outside from said image processing apparatus,~~

wherein the said image processing apparatus performs a process of rotating the ~~first-character~~ second image according to a rotation of the image processing apparatus before the ~~first-character~~ second image is superimposed on the first image.

25. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus according to Claim 24, wherein the said image processing apparatus further performs a process of rotating the first image according to a rotation of the said image processing apparatus before the ~~second character~~ third image is superimposed on the first image.

26. (Currently Amended) A digital camera comprising:
an image capture unit;
a memory adapted to store ~~[[an]]~~ first image captured by ~~[[an]]~~ said image capture unit;
a first superimposing unit adapted to superimpose a ~~first character~~ second image on the first image read from said memory;
a second superimposing unit adapted to superimpose a ~~second character~~ third image on the first image read from said memory;
a display unit adapted to display the first image on which the ~~first character~~ second image is superimposed; and
an outputting unit adapted to output the first image on which the ~~second character~~ third image is superimposed ~~to outside from said digital camera,~~
wherein the digital camera performs a process of rotating the ~~first character~~ second image according to a rotation of the said digital camera before the ~~first character~~ second image is superimposed on the first image.

27. (Currently Amended) The digital camera according to Claim 26, wherein the said digital camera further performs a process of rotating the first image according to a rotation of the said digital camera before the ~~second-character~~ third image is superimposed on the first image.

28. (Currently Amended) A method for use in an image processing apparatus including an image capture unit, a memory adapted to store ~~[[an]]~~ a first image captured by ~~[[an]]~~ the image capture unit, and a display unit adapted to display the first image, the method comprising the steps of:

a first superimposing step, of superimposing a first-character second image on the first image read from the memory;

a second superimposing step, of superimposing a second-character third image on the first image read from the memory;

a displaying step, of displaying the first image on which the ~~first-character~~ second image is superimposed using the display unit;

an outputting step, of outputting the first image on which the ~~second~~ character third image is superimposed to outside from the image processing apparatus; and

a rotating step, of rotating the first-character second image according to a rotation of the image processing apparatus before the ~~first-character~~ second image is superimposed on the first image.

29. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 28, further comprising a step of performing a process of rotating the first image according to a rotation of the image processing apparatus before the ~~second character~~ third image is superimposed on the first image.

30. (Currently Amended) A method for use in a digital camera including an image capture unit, a memory adapted to store ~~[[an]]~~ a first image captured by ~~[[an]]~~ the image capture unit, and a display unit adapted to display the first image, the method comprising steps of:

a first superimposing step, of superimposing a first character second image on the first image read from ~~said the~~ memory;

a second superimposing step, of superimposing a second character third image on the first image read from ~~said the~~ memory;

a displaying step, of displaying the first image on which the ~~first character~~ second image is superimposed using the display unit;

a outputting step, of outputting the first image on which the ~~second~~ character third image is superimposed, to outside from the digital camera; and

a rotating step, of rotating the first character second image according to a rotation of the digital camera before the ~~first character~~ second image is superimposed on the first image.

31. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 30, further comprising a step of rotating the first image according to a rotation of the digital camera before the ~~second character~~ third image is superimposed on the first image.